

# **NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office Regional Coordination**

by

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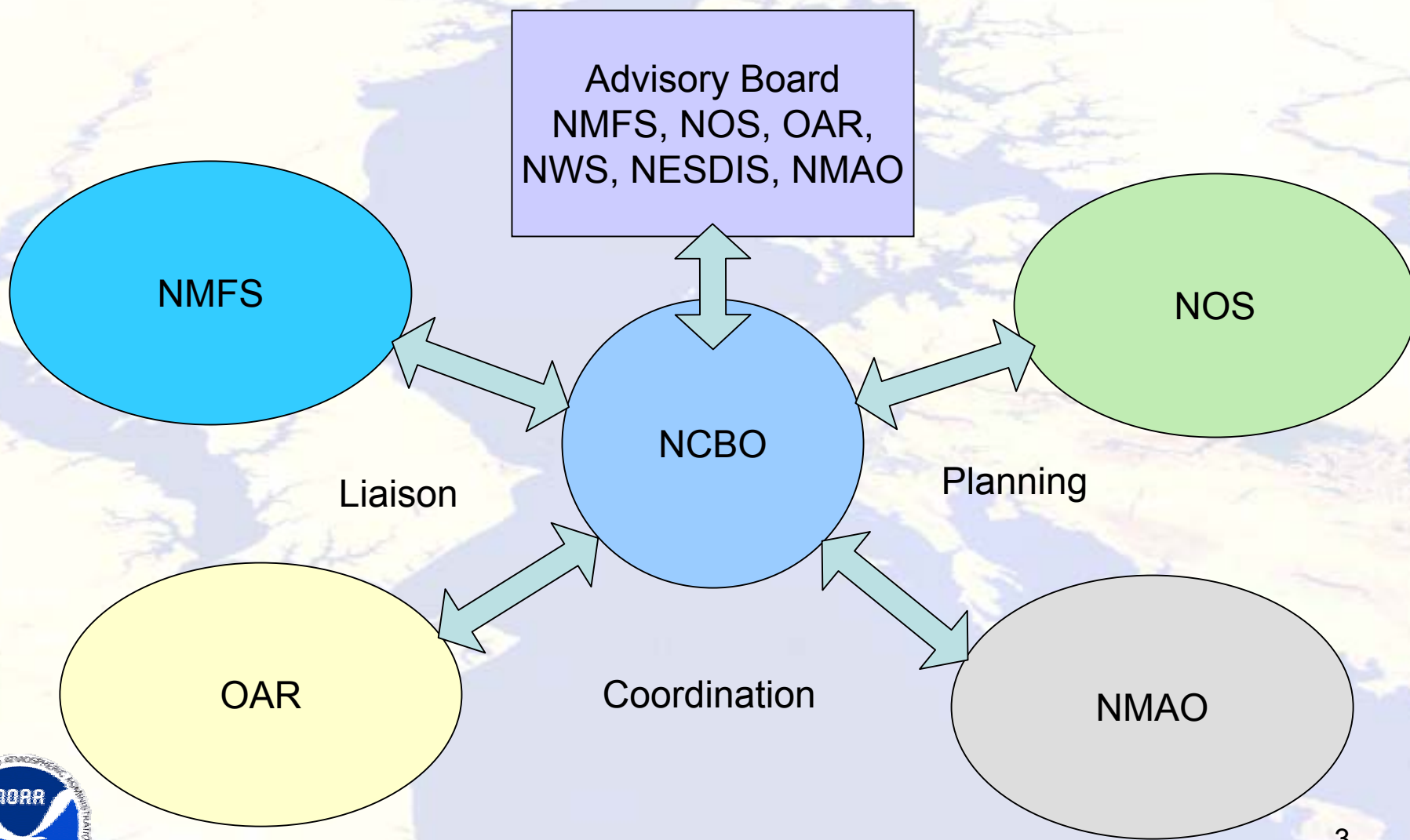


# NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office

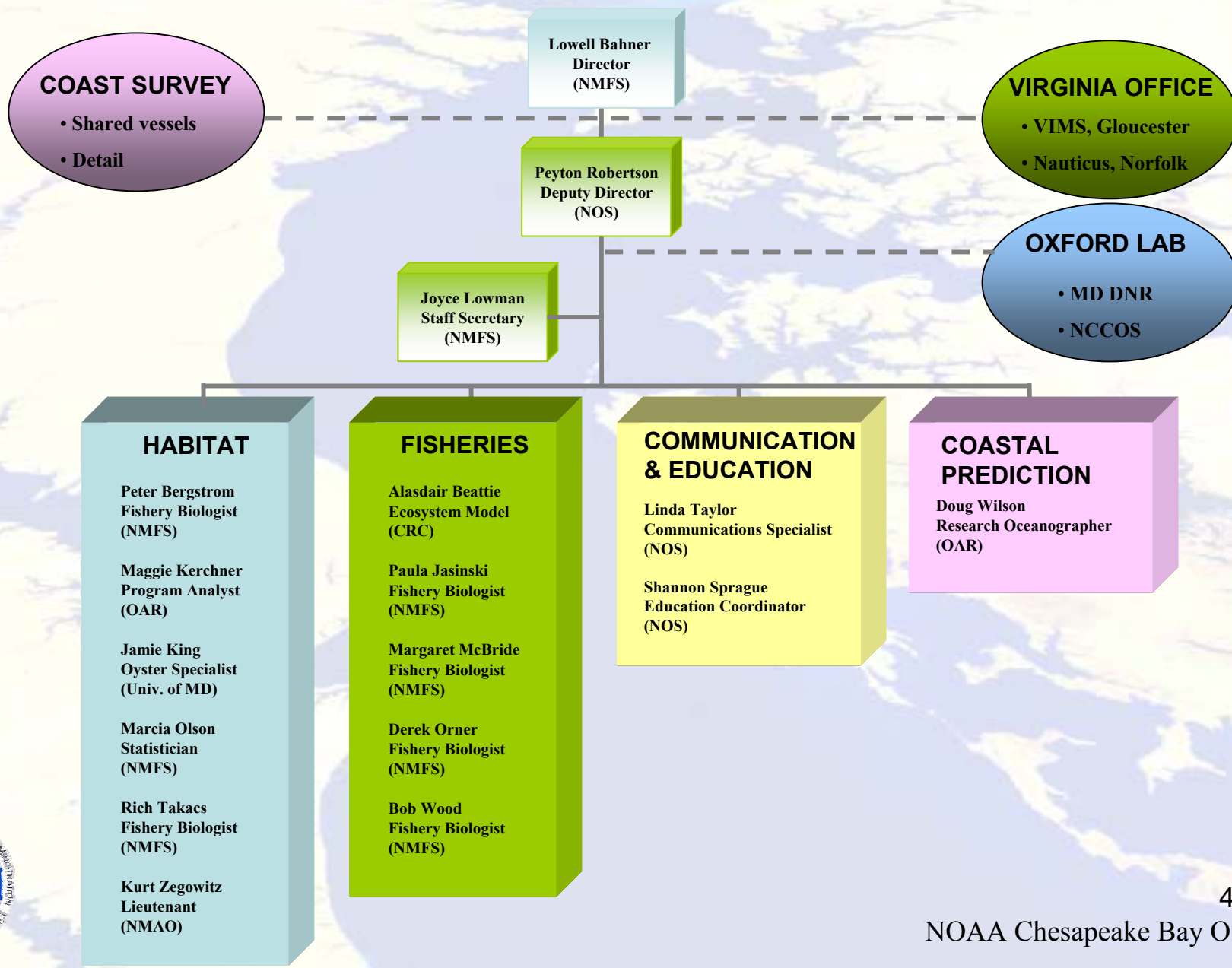
*...provides science, service and stewardship to support the Chesapeake Bay Program and other partners and advances NOAA's mission in the region.*



# Current NOAA Connections



# NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office





# NOAA - Federal Partner in Chesapeake Bay Program

- Joined Chesapeake Bay Program in 1984
- NCBO established in 1992, reauthorized in 2002
- Federal funding for Fisheries, Habitat Restoration, and Education
- NCBO involvement in CBP:
  - Implementation Committee
  - Federal Agencies Committee
  - Fisheries Steering Committee
  - Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee
  - Living Resources, Education, Modeling, Monitoring, Information Management, and work groups



# NOAA Role in Chesapeake 2000

- 1.1.1 By 2010, 10-Fold increase in oysters
- 1.2.1 Exotic and invasive species, ballast water
- 1.3 By 2003, revise migratory fish FMPs
- 1.4.1 By 2004, assess menhaden, oysters and clams
- 1.4.2 By 2005, develop multi-species management plans
- 1.4.3 By 2007, implement multi-species management plans
- 1.5.1 Blue crabs, establish targets and manage species
- 2.1 SAV, accelerate protection and restoration
- 3.2.2 Toxics, understand effects and impacts
- 3.4.1 By 2003, effects of airborne nitrogen compounds
- 5.1 Education, meaningful Bay experience for children
- 5.2 Community Engagement, small watershed grants



# What We Do

## Fisheries Research and Monitoring

- ❖ Fisheries Steering Committee  
Coordinates State and Federal  
Fisheries Management in  
Chesapeake Bay



- Blue Crab Advisory Report
- Oyster Advisory Report
- Coordinated Bay-wide  
Monitoring for Fish and Crabs
- Coordinated Bay-wide Stock  
Assessments
- Multi-species Fishery  
Ecosystem Plan







# What We Do

## Fisheries Ecosystem Plan (FEP)

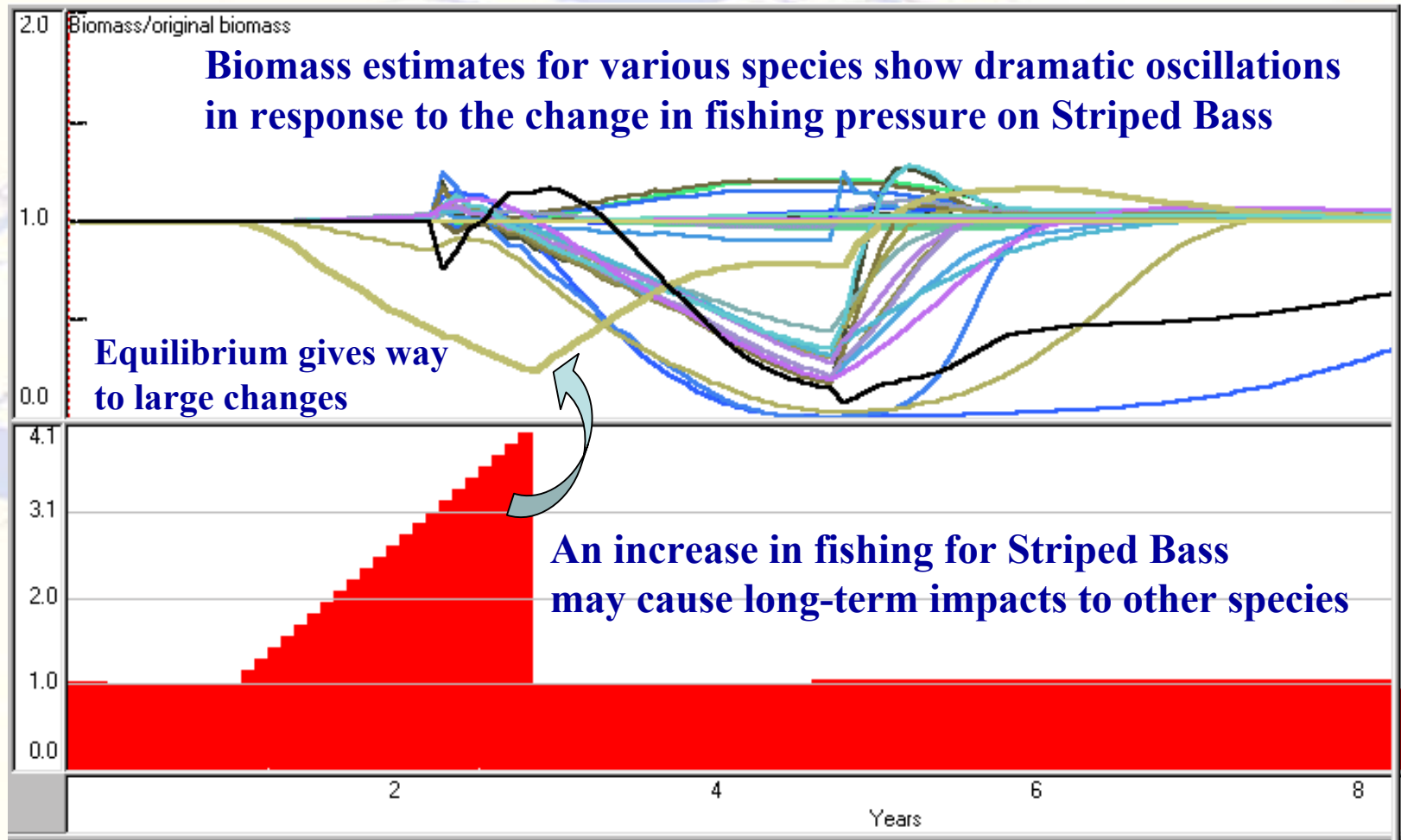
- Describes the CB Fisheries Ecosystem
- Recommendations
  - *Ecosystem-based Approaches to Management*
  - *Needed Research*
- Fisheries Mgt. Planning and Coordination Workgroup Guidance
- Strategy for Incremental FEP Implementation





# What We Do

## Ecosystem Modeling/Multi-Species Mgt



# What We Do

## Fund Large Scale Oyster Restoration

Shell Preparation



Shell Transport



Spat on Shell Planting



Oyster Monitoring



### Partners

- Oyster Recovery Partnership
- Maryland DNR
- Virginia Oyster Heritage
- Virginia Marine Resources Commission





# What We Do

## Fund Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) Restoration



Plant production



Deliver plants



Planting



Monitor survival

Partners:  
MD DNR  
VIMS  
ACB  
CBF  
CBT  
Local watershed  
groups





# What We Do

## Coastal Prediction Center

### Integrating Coastal Observations

- **Winds**
- **Waves**
- **Currents**
- **Tides**
- **Circulation**
- **Weather**

### Providing Real-time Information

- **Recreational Users**
- **Bay Swim**



Significant Component of Proposed Regional Obs System



# What We Do

## Environmental Education



- Bay Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) Program
- New in FY02, expanded in FY03
- Basin-wide K-12 Program
- Addresses Chesapeake 2000 goal for ‘meaningful Bay and stream experience’
- Summer workshops and camps





# What We Do

## NCBO Oxford Field Research Laboratory

Field research directed towards ...

1. **Ecosystem Health** - focus on understanding the factors that affect ecologically important habitats and processes.
2. **Characterizing Fish Habitat** - describe their spatial & temporal distributions identify and describe benthic fish habitat 'types'

### Assets:

- 41 Foot Research Vessel
- 7 FTEs





# What We Do

## New Virginia Office

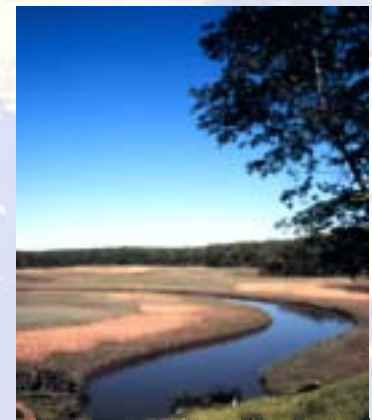


### **Outreach and Education**

- New opportunities to educate the public on NOAA's Chesapeake Bay activities at Nauticus.
- Partnership opportunities with Elizabeth River Project, other local constituents.

### **Fisheries Research and Habitat Restoration**

- Bring attention to fishery concerns unique to Virginia.
- Develop cooperative research programs with Virginia research facilities.
- Translate results from NOAA-funded research in VA into new products and outreach materials.



# What We Do

## Other Activities

- Beneficial Use of Dredged Material
  - MD Port Administration, Corps, EPA, FWS, CBF, NMFS NE Region
- Atmospheric Nitrogen Deposition
  - Ammonia from animal waste
- Ballast Water/Invasive Species
- Asian oysters, *C. ariakensis*
- Bay bottom mapping
  - Bathymetry
  - Oyster shell deposits
- Remote sensing and physical oceanography
  - Bay dynamics, Coastal GOOS

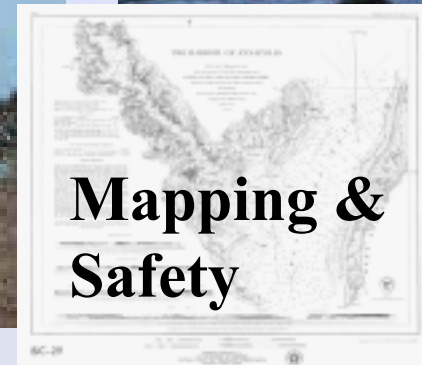
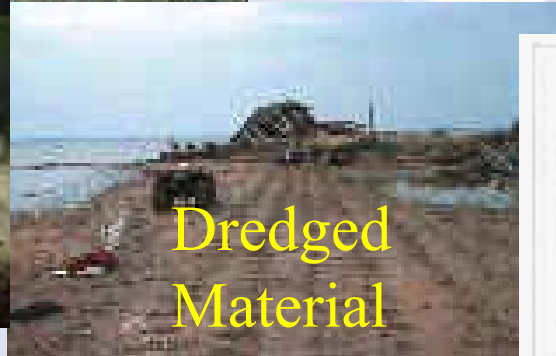
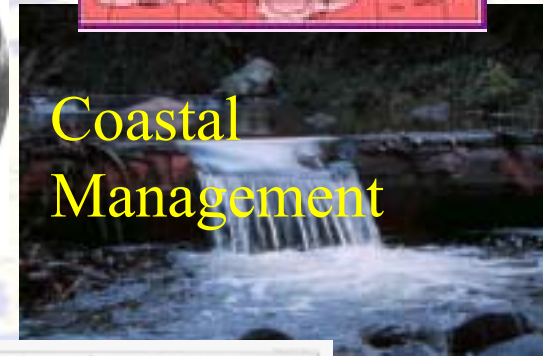
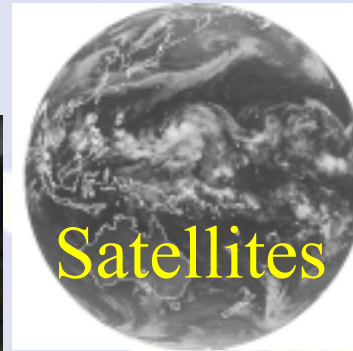
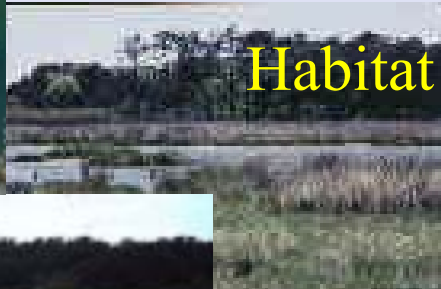
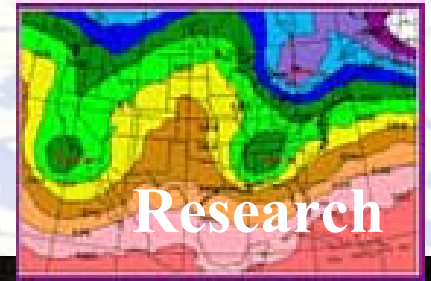
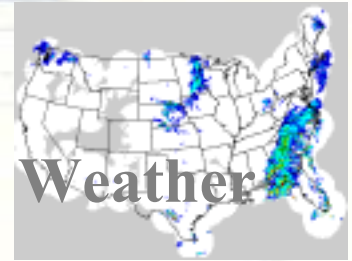


# Thoughts About NOAA Regions





# Many Common Areas of NOAA Regional Interest



# Placed-based presence seems to be a “Good Idea”

- **1996 “Recommendations for Improving the Coastal Stewardship Mission of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration”**
- **1999 “A Regional Approach for the National Ocean Service” (David McKinnie, et al.)**
- **PRT-54 Regional Coordination Programs**
  - **Tampa Bay, Seattle-Tacoma, San Francisco, Ann Arbor**
  - **One NOAA face**
  - **Addition of Hawaii as 5<sup>th</sup> site**
  - **February 14, 2003 Tasking Memo**
- **Interviews with over 20 NOAA managers and staff (April-June 2003)**
- **Great Lakes Commission meeting**
- **NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office**



# 1996 “Recommendations for Improving the Coastal Stewardship Mission of the NOAA”

- “NOAA’s stewardship message is fragmented when dealing with constituencies and the Congress”
- “NOAA’s regional presence is weak and confused—there is no locale or coordinator in each region to address the panoply of NOAA activities with affected constituents”
- “NOAA should have a better understanding of regional priorities when making decisions”





# 1999 “A Regional Approach for the National Ocean Service”

- “Advancement of NOAA’s coastal stewardship mission”
- “Regional approach should focus on delivery and maximum usefulness of products and services to NOAA’s clients”
- “Regional approach must be adaptable, organic and responsive ... that promotes a more effective way of doing business”
- “Two-way flow of information, products, and services with clients; internal and external communication is critical”
- “NOAA infrastructure should be transparent to user community”



# Great Lakes Commission

- Very excited about NOAA participation
- The Great Lakes Commission (GLC)
  - very positive attitude about NOAA
  - relationship should be nurtured through additional collaboration
- Indiana Gov's First Lady
  - very high interest in environmental education
- GLC interested in NOAA being co-located at a new facility in Ann Arbor with them and other partners
  - 2006-2007 timeframe
  - With U of Mich, GLC, Sea Grant, GLERL, other feds
- 13 of 16 areas of interest by GLC match NOAA interests



# Progress to Date

- Chesapeake Bay, 11 years
- CDR Steve Thompson, San Francisco
- David McKinnie, Seattle
- Michael Henderson, Tampa
- Charleston Coastal Services Center
- Pacific Services Center
- Mike Matthews, NOAA Regional Meetings





# Regional Programs Can Address Multiple Needs

- Improved Cross-Line Office Communication
- “One-NOAA” face to the public
- Field staff provide “early warning” to HQ
- Integration of NOAA products and services
- Expanded marketing of NOAA products and services to stakeholders



# Feedback from San Francisco

- Cross-LO meetings since 1999
- Like the idea of a Cross-LO Advisory Board
  - Gain visibility at HQ
  - Stronger voice for local programs
- Data base of NOAA capabilities and assets
- Desire to broaden outreach to stakeholders



# Chesapeake Bay: What Works...

- Multi-Line Office Staff working on regional issues
  - Staff are in-tune with local issues and can provide “early warning” signals to NOAA
  - Integration of cross-line office staff provides enhanced knowledge-base
  - Responsibility for tracking NOAA assets and funding in watershed
- One-NOAA face to stakeholders and constituents
  - Storefront office serves as interface between constituents and NOAA programs
  - Local NOAA presence is embraced by constituents
- Cross-cutting approach used by staff
  - Multi-LO workshops (ocean observing system, air/water/land research, broader user base)





# Where do we go now?

- Status quo
- Ad hoc regional interactions
- Loosely coordinated programs
- Organized national program

